

## WALL STREET CALM

Market Not Disturbed; Traders Feel Sure of Hughes.

## READING STOCK ON BULL SIDE

Little Interest Shown in Prospective Change of Illinois Central Management—Higher Wages by Railroads Will Tend to Increase Business and Revenue This Will Not Be Lessened.

New York, Nov. 5.—Wall Street took it for granted today that Hughes would be elected. To-morrow the voters will be elected. Many commission houses have advised their customers that the election of Hughes had been discounted, and that if Hearst should be elected the market would suffer a severe setback. What, however, will enter largely into consideration of the market's future course during the campaign of the week will be the result in other States and the indication afforded by the results of the possibilities of the Presidential campaign two years hence. For the time being the money situation may be forced into the background—although some brokers doubt whether it will stay there—and political influences seem likely to determine the movement of securities prices.

A large Western house sold a considerable line of Steel and Union Pacific, but for all stock sold by this firm and for all stock coming from any source there was at all times during the day a good market.

## Reading Tips Are Frequent.

Usually when a certain speculative clique is active in Reading, tips on the stocks are freely distributed, and, as from the opening to-day there were predictions that the price would cross 150 before the end of the day, it was inferred that this interest had a good deal to do with the movement.

As a reason for the bullish prediction on the stock it was rumored that the directors would meet on November 21 and act on the dividend, raising the rate on the common from 4 to 5 per cent a year. This would put action on the Reading a week ahead of the declaration on Lehigh Valley and take from the latter a great deal of the interest now attaching to it.

The general expectation, however, is that the Reading dividend will not be declared this month. Last year nothing was done until the December meeting of the board, and the same condition will probably be followed this year. The meeting of the board this month is not likely to transact anything more than routine business, for as the dividend will not be paid until February 1, 1907, there can hardly be any necessity for declaring it in the present month. In the ordinary course the dividend question should come up on December 12.

## May Be Perpetually Legal.

Perhaps before settling the means by which Reading may have to comply with the law prohibiting railroads from operating mines and selling coal it would be well to make sure that the present arrangement is not in entire conformity with the law. The Reading Company is a holding company which controls the Philadelphia and Reading Company and the Reading Coal and Iron Company—separate companies—and as it antedated the new rate law and was not formed for the purpose of evading any statute, there is no certainty that the courts would uphold its right to retain the coal already in its hands and to receive revenues from its investment in other companies just as it has done all along.

Bulls on Reading are not merely content with the right to retain the coal, they strive to put the stock to new record prices in the face of earnings which, by a comparison with those of last year, are only about stationary. The gross earnings of the railroad for the first quarter of the fiscal year show a falling off of about \$200,000 in gross earnings. The movement in most railroad stocks have the benefit of the other kind of change.

## Net Earnings Show Decline.

In the matter of net, the comparison is less favorable to the bulls on Reading stock, the falling off in this item being as much as \$353,371, or 12.34 per cent. The decline in net may, of course, be attributed to special causes, like the charging of betterments to income, but the fact that the gross earnings are maintained cannot so easily be explained away. The increase in the wages of the employees may be offset by a reduction in other items of operating expense, but for the present it will not add a great deal to gross earnings.

## At first sight it may appear as if the

additional payments involved in the increases of wages granted by some of the railroads can be set down as so much clear loss to the company. Pennsylvania has shown, however, that to treat it as a mistake. In every instance in the past where important increases in wages were granted, the gross earnings of the resultant increase in the productivity of the territory involved added a great deal to the business of the roads.

Free circulation of money has created new business and stimulated enterprise, and while the effect was more pronounced, it almost invariably became quite noticeable later. Unfortunately, the effect on increased wages in business of the railroad making the increase is not susceptible of accurate measurement, but that it amounts to a great deal in the way of new business and in obtaining faithful service from employees is testified to by the heads of several large roads.

President Mather, of the Rock Island, does not seem to be alarmed over the drift of population from the farm to the town. A dispatch received from Chicago by one of the news agencies quoted him as follows:

"There is an amazing demand for farms in the Southwest. On one day recently a homeseeker's excursion on the Rock Island carried over 3,000 people."

## Copper Shows Advance.

All the news on Amalgamated Copper was bullish. In London spot copper was quoted at an advance of £1 a ton after last week's closing figures, and Rio Tinto shares were active and strong.

At home the advance was entirely favorable to producers of metal, and the likelihood of higher prices was conceded in well-informed circles. As for Amalgamated stock, close observers on the floor said the floating supply was small and that the advance made during the day was almost entirely the result of a legitimate reason being conspicuously absent. The tendency of speculation to shift into this stock from the mining issues on the curb was most pronounced at any other time recently.

Very little interest was shown in the coming contest over the Illinois Central presidency. The street drew conclusions from the day that Hughes would be elected, and the market was not at all absolutely depend upon, voted the proxies in his hands for the re-election of directors whose loyalty was open to question. That anything worthy of being called a fight.

There could be no compromising with Harriman. Wall Street knew this. When

## WALL STREET NOTES.

New York, Nov. 5.—Influences of a political nature were in today's stock market, whatever in to-day's stock market, and as the feeling was universal that the result of to-morrow's election would be in every way favorable to business interests, and that the only question concerning the contest in this State was really the size of the plurality that would be given to the Republican candidate for the governorship, this was necessarily reflected in higher prices for securities.

## NEW YORK STOCK MARKET.

Quotations furnished by Charles G. Gates & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, Munsey Building.

	Sales	Open	High	Low	Nov. 27-31
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
Am. Sugar	110	11	11	11	11
Am. Tea	100	11	11	11	11
Am. Tobacco	800	165	165	165	165
Am. Cotton Oil	35	11	11	11	11
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